

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 ACDA-05 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EUR-12 DHA-02 AID-05 SCCT-01 /093 W

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R 061038Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5139

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SY, LE

SUBJ: REPORTS OF SAIQA MILITARY ACTIVITY IN LEBANON

1. FSI INSTRUCTOR ON WAY TO TUNIS AFTER VISITING FAMILY IN TRIPOLI DESCRIBED TO US SAIQA'S PACIFICATION OF TRIPOLI FEW WEEKS BACK. FRIENDS TOLD HIM THAT SAIQA TROOPS ENTERED CITY SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT ONE NIGHT, BEGAN DISARMING AND DISPERSING PREVIOUSLY RECALCITRANT ELEMENTS OF CITY'S MUSLIM POPULATION, AND DEPARTED TRIPOLI AROUND MIDNIGHT FOLLOWING DAY AFTER RESTORING ORDER TO CITY. HE ADDED THAT SOME OF THOSE WHO OFFERED MOST STUBBORN RESISTANCE TO SAIQA'S PACIFICATION EFFORTS HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO SYRIA AND IMPRISONED IN MEZZEH PRISON.

2. ON NOV 4 EMBOFF INTERVIEWED TWO LEBANESE RESIDENTS OF ZAHLE ON WAY TO JOIN HUSBANDS IN U.S. THEY STATED THAT CLASHES TOOK PLACE IN CITY OCT 29-31 BUT SUBSIDED INTO INTERMITTENT FIGHTING THEREAFTER.
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THEY CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE ABOUT POSSIBLE SAIQA PARTICI-

PATION IN CLASHES.

3. AMERICAN UNDP REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS BEEN RESIDING
IN BEKAA FOR TWO YEARS TOLD CONSOFF NOV 5 THAT
PEOPLE FROM THREE MUSLIM VILLAGES IN BEKAA ATTACKED
ZAHLE PRIOR TO NOV 2 BUT THAT SITUATION HAD QUITED
BY TIME HE DECIDED TO TRAVEL TO DAMASCUS THAT DAY.
HE HAD HEARD RUMORS OF SAIQA, PLO AND PLA INVOLVEMENT
IN FIGHTING BUT HAD OBSERVED NOTHING TO CONFIRM THIS
SPECULATION.
PELLETREAU

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